



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release:
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MEDIA ADVISORY *Not for Publication or Broadcast*

North Dakota Department of Health and Department of Public Instruction Schedule News Conference To Discuss Placement of AEDs in North Dakota Schools

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health and the Department of Public Instruction will hold a news conference to discuss the placement of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in North Dakota schools Monday, Jan. 7, 2008, at 1:45 p.m. in the Saxvik Elementary School gymnasium at 523 N. 21st St., Bismarck, N.D.

The following individuals will participate in the news conference:

- Dr. Wayne Sanstead, superintendent of public instruction, North Dakota Department of Public Instruction
- Dr. Terry Dwelle, state health officer, North Dakota Department of Health
- Sen. Randall Christmann, Hazen, N.D.
- Rep. Phillip Mueller, Valley City, N.D.
- Valerie Fischer, school health director, North Dakota Department of Public Instruction
- Dr. Paul Johnson, superintendent, Bismarck Public Schools
- Maynard Gunderson, principal, Saxvik Elementary School

An AED is a portable device that can provide lifesaving response when someone experiences a sudden cardiac arrest. The AED analyzes the heart's rhythm for any abnormalities and, if necessary, directs the rescuer to deliver an electrical shock to the victim, which may help the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm of its own. The 2007 North Dakota Legislative Assembly appropriated \$400,000 for the purchase of AEDs for the more than 300 North Dakota private and public schools that did not already have the device.

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Visit the health department home page at www.ndhealth.gov.

For more information about the news conference, contact Loreeta Canton or Stacy Eberl at 701.328.2372.

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Please note: To access archived news releases and other information, visit the North Dakota Department of Health Press Room at www.nddohpressroom.gov.